

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method for producing a print block for rotogravure, comprising the steps of:

applying a chromium layer to a rotogravure print block as an engraving surface; and

by use of a laser beam, engraving rotogravure cups in the chromium layer engraving surface where differing volumes of the engraved cups determine differing corresponding tone values.

2. (previously amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the chromium layer is galvanically applied.

3. (previously amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the chromium layer is provided with a predetermined roughness.

4. (previously amended) The method according to claim 3 wherein the roughness is generated by at least one of polishing and grinding.

5. (previously amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the engraving is implemented with a plurality of at least one of simultaneous and successive laser beams.

6. (currently amended) A method for rotogravure printing, comprising the steps of:

providing a rotogravure print block having a core;

applying a chromium containing layer on the print block core as an engraving surface;

laser beam engraving rotogravure cups into the engraving layer where differing volumes of the engraved cups determine differing corresponding tone values; and

inserting the print block in a printing machine and printing by use of the print block.

7. (currently amended) The method according to claim 6 wherein after a completion of use in the printing machine, removing the chromium containing layer from the print block.

8. (currently amended) The method according to claim 6 including the step of providing the chromium containing layer with a predetermined roughness.

9. (previously amended) The method according to claim 8 wherein the roughness is generated by at least one of polishing and grinding.

10. (currently amended) The method according to claim 6 including the step of galvanically applying the chromium containing layer.

11. (currently amended) A method for rotogravure printing, comprising the steps of:

providing a rotogravure print block having a core;

~~The method according to claim 6 including the step of~~ providing a base copper layer on the core and then applying [the] a chromium containing layer as an engraving layer onto the base copper layer[.];

laser beam engraving cups into the engraving layer; and

inserting the print block in a printing machine and printing by use of the print block.

12. (currently amended) The method according to claim 6 11 wherein the core comprises steel.

13. (currently amended) A method for rotogravure printing, comprising the steps of:

providing a print block having a core;

applying a chromium layer comprising only chromium on the print block core as an engraving surface;

laser beam engraving cups into the engraving layer; and
inserting the print block in a printing machine and printing by use of the print block

~~The method according to claim 6 wherein the chromium layer comprises only chromium.~~

14. (cancelled)

15. (currently amended) The method according to claim 6 13 wherein the chromium ~~containing~~ layer has a thickness of approximately 25 ~~µm~~ µm.

16. (currently amended) The method according to claim 6 13 wherein the rotogravure printing machine comprises a heliorotogravure machine.

17. (currently amended) A method for producing a print block for rotogravure, comprising the steps of:

providing a cylindrical core and a copper layer therearound;

galvanically applying a chromium layer to the copper layer as an engraving surface; and

by use of a laser beam, engraving cups in the chromium layer engraving surface.

18. (currently amended) A rotogravure print block, comprising:

a core;

a chromium layer over the core; and

laser engraved rotogravure cups engraved in the chromium layer where differing volumes of the engraved cups determine differing corresponding tone values.

19. (previously amended) The print block according to claim 18 wherein the core comprises steel and the chromium layer is galvanically applied directly on the steel.

20. (currently amended) A rotogravure print block, comprising:

a core;

a chromium layer over the core;

laser engraved cups in the chromium layer; and

~~The block according to claim 18 wherein a copper base layer is being provided on the core and the chromium layer is applied on the base layer.~~

21. (currently amended) The print block according to claim 18 wherein the chromium layer is provided with a predetermined roughness.

22. (currently amended) A rotogravure print block, comprising:

a core;

a chromium layer which is only chromium over the core; and

laser engraved cups in the chromium layer

~~The block according to claim 18 wherein the chromium layer is only chromium.~~

23. (cancelled)

24. (currently amended) The print block according to claim 18 22 wherein the chromium layer has a thickness of approximately 25 μm .

25. (previously presented) A rotogravure print block, comprising:

a steel cylindrical core;

a copper layer on the core;

a chromium layer on the copper layer; and

laser engraved cups in the chromium layer.